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MAB 226
22 September 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, Operations Group

FROM : Chief, Abidjan Bureau

SUBJECT : DCI Visit to Abidjan

1. The DCI, who is touring several countries in West and Southern Africa, was in Abidjan 20 and 21 September. Prior to a meeting with Ivory Coast President Houphouet-Boigny on the 21st, he was briefed by Embassy officers on current issues affecting Ivorian-U.S. relations.

2. I participated in this briefing session, primarily by explaining the nature of FBIS services to the GOIC Foreign Ministry. I concluded by citing some examples of specific events in which the GOIC evinced such interest that the Bureau arranged special deliveries of FBIS material directly to the foreign minister--coups in Liberia and Ghana, and the aftermath of Zaire's decision to reestablish diplomatic relations with Israel. Ambassador Rawls then told the DCI that our service to the GOIC has proven to be much more than a public relations gesture. She said the Embassy frequently has found our services valuable in its own dealings with the Ivorians.

3. The DCI asked several questions about the size of the Bureau operation, the extent of our coverage, and our physical layout including size and visibility of our antenna field. As the briefing session broke up, he expressed pleasure at the "good job" FBIS is doing.

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Chief, Abidjan Bureau

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